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Docket No.: 0969-0187PUS1

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Toshio YAMAUCHI

Application No.: 10/576,610

10/3/0,010

Filed: April 21, 2006

Art Unit: N/A

For: CASTERS

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Confirmation No.: 2059

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (SUBMISSION AFTER FILING OF AN APPLICATION BUT BEFORE FINAL REJECTION OR NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE OR CONCURRENTLY WITH A RULE 1.114 RCE APPLICATION)

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, applicant(s) hereby submit(s) an Information Disclosure Statement for consideration by the Examiner.

I. <u>LIST OF PATENTS, PUBLICATIONS OR OTHER INFORMATION</u>

The patents, publications, or other information submitted for consideration by the Office are listed on the PTO-SB08(s), attached hereto.

II. COPIES

a. Copies of cited U.S. patents and patent application publications are not included.

Copies of foreign patent documents and non-patent literature are included.

Applicatior	n No.: 10/576,610	Docket No.: 0969-0187PUS1
•		n the PTO-SB08 are not enclosed because d copies should already be in the PTO file.
ii copies ai		
c.		R SUBMITTED - Pursuant to 37 C.F.R.
		PTO-SB08 form(s) is requested since any
-		e listed on the PTO-SB08 form(s) but for
_		sly cited by or submitted to the PTO in one
of the foll	owing applications which has been relied	upon for an earlier filing date under 35
U.S.C. § 12	20:	
	U.S. Appl. No(s) and U.S. Filing Date	
III. <u>CO</u>	NCISE EXPLANATION OF THE RELEV	'ANCE
(ch	eck at least one box)	
a.	DOCUMENTS IN THE ENGLISH LANGU	JAGE - The patents, publications, or other
nformatio	n listed on the attached PTO SB08 are in	the English language and therefore, do not
require a s	tatement of relevancy.	
	of all patents, publications, or other infe	ANGUAGE - A concise explanation of the ormation listed that is not in the English
language i	s as follows: English Abstracts of all the	Japanese documents are attached.
c.	ENGLISH LANGUAGE SEARCH REPORT	- An English language version of the search
report or a		ce found by the foreign office is attached,
_	tisfying the requirement for a concise expla	
	OTHER - The following additional in	nformation is provided for the Examiner's
considerat	ion. Copies of JP 8-225001A, JP 2002-03	37147A, JP 11-20401A, JP 11-91304A, JP
2001-8850	07A and JP 2003-94906A, previously	cited on the PTO SB-08 filed with the
	on on April 21, 2006 and cited in the Inte	

IV.	<u>FEES</u>	(check one box)
of a ne	a. w pater	This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrently with the filing at application; therefore, no fee is required.
a conti	b. inuation	This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrent with the filing of -in-part, continuation, or divisional patent application; therefore, no fee is required.
•		This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the a national application (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(1)). No fee or statement is required. s not to be used with RCE's.)
		This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application (37 C.F.R. No fee or statement is required.
	e. Request ent is re	This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrently with the filing for Continued Examination under § 1.114 (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(4)). No fee or equired.
that a :	first Off (c) and	This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of an the merits (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3)). No fee or statement is required. In the event fice Action on the merits has been issued, please consider this IDS under 37 C.F.R. see the statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) below, or, if no statement has been our deposit account for the fee as required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).
		This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113 (See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)(1)) or before the mailing ce of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311 (See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)(2)).
	or	No statement; therefore, a fee as required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is attached.

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JMS/CTT/bsh

Docket No.: 0969-0187PUS1 Application No.: 10/576,610 See the statement below. No fee is required. STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) V. (check only one box) The undersigned hereby states that: Each item of information contained in the IDS was first cited in any communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than 30 days prior to the filing of this IDS; or Each item of information contained in the IDS was first cited in any b. communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS; or No item of information contained in the IDS was cited in a communication from a c. foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of IDS was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the IDS. Some of the items of information were cited in a communication from a foreign d. Patent Office. As to this information, the undersigned states that each item of information contained in the IDS was first cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS. As to the remaining information, the undersigned hereby states that no item of this remaining information contained in the IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the best of my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

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PAYMENT	OF FEES	(check	one box)
	PAYMENT	PAYMENT OF FEES	PAYMENT OF FEES (check

The required fee is listed on the attached Fee Transmittal.

 \square No fee is required.

If the Examiner has any questions concerning this IDS, he/she is requested to contact the undersigned. If it is determined that this IDS has been filed under the wrong rule, the PTO is requested to consider this IDS under the proper rule and charge the appropriate fee to Deposit Account No. 02-2448.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: January 3, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

James M. Slattery

Registration No.: 28,380

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(703) 205-8000

Attorney for Applicant

Attachment(s):

\boxtimes	PTO-SB08
\boxtimes	Documents
\boxtimes	Foreign Search Report
\Box	Fee

Other:

PTO/SB/08A/B (09-06)
Approved for use through 03/31/2007. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

	Substitute for form 1449/PTO		Complete if Known			
	000				Application Number	10/576,610-Conf. #2059
1	IN	IFORMATION	I DI	SCLOSURE	Filing Date	April 21, 2006
	S	TATEMENT B	3Y A	APPLICANT	First Named Inventor	Toshio YAMAUCHI
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,		(Use as many sh	eets as	necessary)	Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
7	Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	0969-0187PUS1

	U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.¹	Document Number Number-Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	

		FOREIG	GN PATENT I	DOCUMENTS		
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (<i>if known</i>)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
	BA**	JP-10-129541-A	05-19-1998			Abs

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ** CITE NO.: Those document(s) which are marked with an double asterisk (**) next to the Cite No. are not supplied because they were previously cited by or submitted to the Office in a prior application relied upon in this application for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. 120. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁸ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

		NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS	
Examiner Initials	Cite No.1	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T²

^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Examiner	Date
Signature	Considered

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¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.